

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSM-03 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /091 W
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R 011606Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7013
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION SINAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, IS, US
SUBJECT: EBAN PROPOSED AS GOVERNMENT INFORMATION EMISSARY TO U.S.

1. FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN MET WITH ABBA EBAN ON JUNE 29 AND PROPOSED THAT HE GO TO THE U.S. AS PART OF THE LIKUD GOVERNMENT'S INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC. THE OFFER HAS THE APPROVAL OF PRIME MINISTER BEGIN. EBAN SEEMS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO THE IDEA AND IS CONSULTING WITH HIS POLITICAL ALLY, ALIGNMENT CHAIRMAN SHIMON PERES, AND OTHER PARTY COLLEAGUES.

2. ACCORDING TO DANNY BLOCK, WRITING IN DAVAR, EBAN EMPHASIZED TO DAYAN THAT HE WOULD SPEAK HIS OWN MIND AND NOT NECESSARILY PROPOUND THE VIEWS OF THE

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GOVERNMENT. EBAN ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE AMERICANS SHOULD REALIZE THAT ISRAELI DOVES LIKE HIMSELF ARE ALSO WORRIED ABOUT RECENT U.S. PRONOUNCEMENTS THAT RUN COUNTER TO THE ISRAELI CONSENSUS ON ARAB-ISRAELI ISSUES.

3. MEANWHILE, SEVERAL ALIGNMENT LEADERS HAVE

PUBLICLY STATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO SUCH A MISSION BY EBAN. MK MOSHE SHAHAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE ALIGNMENT'S KNESSET FACTION (WHIP), INSISTED THAT EBAN OBTAIN THE ALIGNMENT'S FORMAL APPROVAL FOR THE MISSION. SHAHAL MAINTAINED THAT THE OFFER INDICATED THAT THE LIKUD'S POLICY HAD ALREADY ENCOUNTERED MAJOR DIFFICULTIES WITH THE U.S.; THAT SHMUEL KATZ' RECENT INFORMATION MISSION HAD BEEN A FAILURE; AND THAT THE LIKUD HAS NO SUITABLE PEOPLE OF ITS OWN TO SEND ON A PR CAMPAIGN.

4. MK YITZHAK NAVON, AS DOVISH AS EBAN IN THE LABOR PARTY, ALSO OPPOSES THE MISSION BY EBAN, POINTING OUT THAT THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE ALIGNMENT AND THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WOULD BE OVERLOOKED OR NOT UNDERSTOOD ABROAD. EBAN WILL BE VIEWED AS AT ONE WITH THE LIKUD GOVERNMENT'S POSITION. IF EBAN WANTS TO STRESS THE AREAS OF CONSENSUS IN ISRAEL, HE SHOULD PUBLISH (SUCH AS HIS RECENT NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE) AND NOT TRAVEL AS A LIKUD GOVERNMENT EMISSARY.

5. COMMENT: IF EBAN ACCEPTS, IT WILL BE A VICTORY FOR THE LIKUD IN ITS EFFORTS TO BLUR ITS DIFFERENCES WITH THE ALIGNMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. WITH HIS DISTINCT IMAGE AS A MODERATE, EBAN WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPECTED TO RENDER A REAL SERVICE TO THE GOVERNMENT IN SOFTENING PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF ITS STAND AS EXTERMINIST. AS NAVON SUGGESTS, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT EBAN COULD SUCCEED IN DEFENDING THE NATIONAL CONSENSUS IN ISRAEL WHILE AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAINING A DISCERNABLE DISTANCE FROM THE BEGIN-DAYAN POSITION ON THE WEST BANK.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS), PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770237-0063
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
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Litigation History:
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
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TAGS: PBOR, IS, US, (DAYAN, MOSHE), (EBAN, ABBA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/82e2f071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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